Prime Minister's discussion with Sir Anerood Jugnauth Prime Minister of Mauritius, covered bilateral relations, regional and international issues.

The visit resulted in reaffirmation and consolidation of the existing close ties between the two countries.

Participation in N.P.T. Conference

3257. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to participate in five nation conference on N.P.T.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Influx from Burma to Bangladesh

3258. SHRI RAJMOHAN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the influx from Burma to Bangladesh; and

(b) whether the Government of Bangladesh has approached the Government of India for any assistance in connection with the influx?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir, Government are aware that there has been an influx of a very large number of people from Myanmar into Bangladesh recently.

(b) No, Sir. Government of Bangladesh have not approached Government of India for any assistance in connection with the influx. However, we have expressed concern over this influx and sympathised with Bangladesh for the difficulties it has been facing as a result of the influx. Further, Government have expreased support for the Bangladesh Government's attempts to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

U. S. Offer on Nuclear Free South Asia

3259. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that United States of America have recommended for the five power talks for nuclear free South Asia;

(b) if so, what is Government's stand thereon; and

(c) what are the names of the countries proposed to be invited for talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government's stand is that a 5-Power Conference cannot take place in a vaccuum and that India's security concerns must be first fully taken into account.

(c) When the proposal was first made, the five countries to be invited were the US, Soviet Union, China, India and Pakistan.

Complaint to United Nations against Pakistan's Anti-India Propaganda

3260. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to lodge a complaint with the United Nations against Pakistan's anti India propaganda through the electronic media;

(b) if so, the follow-up action taken by India's representative at the UN; and

(c) the Council's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Conveying India's views on Kashmir to US

3261. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "U.S. playing Kashmir game again" appearing in the 'Hindu' (Delhi Edition) dated the 8th March, 1992;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether India has drawn pointed attention of the U.S. Government to Pakistan violating the spirit of the Simla Agreement through proterrorist and filagrant military and financial aid to the secessionists in the Valley and Pakistan being engaged in a low-intensity was against India; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the U.S. Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) India has repeatedly drawn the attention of the Government of the United States and other government's to Pakistan's violations of the spirit of the Simla Agreement and its abetment of terrorism in Kashmir. The latest such action taken was during the visit of Foreign Secretary to Washington between 9th and 11th March, 1992.

(d) The US Government's view is that the problem of Kashmir should be sorted out bilaterally between India and Pakistan.

Setting up of Policy Planning Cell in the Ministry of External Affairs

3262. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up policy planning cell in the Ministry of External Affairs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to tone up the Foreign Ministries to properly project ever image and view point in various international fora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Ministry of External Affairs already has a Policy Planning Division. Its structuring and functions are reviewed from time to time, as required.

(c) The functioning of the Ministry has been and is being strengthened to ensure the furtherance of India's national interests in the political, security, economic, technological and cultural spheres, both bilaterally and through multilateral fora. This process has involved the improvement of the Ministry's resources in terms of personnel as well as material and equipment.

Interview given by Pak High Commissioner on Kashmir

3263. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: